



# COLBY FREE PRESS

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ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Despite cooler temperatures, Larry Booth played his guitar in front of a small audience at Fike Park in the first Picnic in the Park event of the summer. Picnics will be held every Wednesday at noon until July 29. Next week's entertainment will be Pieces of Eight.

## Library earns national nod over cake pans

By Vera Sloan

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Colby's Pioneer Memorial Library will be getting some national attention with an article to be published in the June 16 issue of *Woman's Day* magazine.

Librarian Melany Wilkes said the article stemmed from a website listing.

"The magazine was searching a database for ways to save money by renting seldom-used items, in place of buying them," she said, "and we are on the database."

The library here apparently is the only one listed as having unique items such as cake pans for check out, she said, and that was enough to make it into a national

magazine.

"This all began in 1985 or 1986 when Joan Sunderman was librarian," Wilkes said, "and it came about because ladies who had baked cakes in the past, and no longer needed their pans, didn't want to throw them away."

They wanted other families, and someday maybe even their grandchildren, to be able to use the pans, she said.

"Joan knew the Hoxie library had cake pans," Wilkes said, "and told the ladies they could bring their pans to the library so other bakers could check them out."

"We have everything from Barbie cake pans to football-shaped

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## District looks at capital outlay

By Kevin Bottrell

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To combat state budget cuts, the Colby School Board may use money from the Capital Outlay fund for equipment purchases and repairs, which could mean higher taxes for Colby residents and businesses to keep the fund afloat.

Superintendent Terrell Harrison told the board Monday the district will need the money for scheduled upgrades to technology and equipment. For instance, she said, two of the district's activity buses, the kind that haul kids to events such as away games, will be 20 years old in 2013. The state requires the district to replace buses at 20 years, she said, and they are not cheap.

Business Manager Jo DeYoung

said the district had been using money from the supplemental general fund for capital items because there was no property tax levy to replenish the capital outlay fund. Sixty-five percent of the supplemental general fund comes from Thomas County property tax levies, she said, but the supplemental fund can only be as big as 30 percent of the general fund. That's too small to make some purchases and repairs, she said. The general fund is mainly used up by salaries. DeYoung said the capital outlay fund currently has about \$450,000 in it.

Board member Omar Weber had asked for a discussion on the subject at the previous meeting May 18.

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## Forensics duo back from nationals

By Andy Heintz

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Two members of the Colby High forensics team attended national competition in Albany, N.Y., on May 23 and 24, the first for the Colby Eagles since 2000.

Junior Gray Henry competed in oral interpretation of literature and senior Kayla Sloan attended the meet as an alternate in extemporaneous speaking.

Henry placed third in oral interpretation of literature at the regional competition at Garnett to earn a spot in nationals. The top six scores in regionals advance to nationals, said Nancy Rundel, forensics coach and instructor at Colby High School.

Since Sloan finished seventh in extemporaneous speaking, she was the Kansas alternate at nationals. She never got a chance to compete because the top six finishers were all able



Gray Henry and Kayla Sloan

to participate, Rundel said.

Henry failed to finish in the top 48 of the 210 competitors, denying him a chance to move on to the finals in October.

"He felt like he had given some of his best performances and was pleased with that," said

Rundel. "While I was disappointed - we all were - I also knew that we had an uphill climb since we had not been to nationals in a long time and didn't know exactly what to expect from the judges."

"The students and I both felt like our community really came out to support their participation in a national event and are very grateful for the opportunity and the outpouring of support."

Rundel said the forensics squad had collected a lot of hardware over the season.

Freshmen Sammy Simons took fourth place in duet at Oakley; Amber Bond was first in duet at Nickerson and first in poetry at Garden City; Christina Ostmeier took first in serious solo acting at Norton and Oakley; Jared Nally took first in informative speaking at Leoti and first in informative speaking in the Western Kansas

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## Congressional candidate visits Colby

By Kevin Bottrell

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Although the general election is still more than a year away, the race for the Republican nomination to represent "The Big First" congressional district is already shaping up.

One candidate, State Sen. Tim Huelskamp, a Republican from Fowler who represents Ford, Gray, Meade, Clark, Haskell and Seward counties, held a "meet-and-greet" at Colby Community College on Sunday and dropped by the *Colby Free Press* on Monday.

Huelskamp, a farmer, has spent the last 13 years as a state senator. He announced that he would seek the nomination after Rep. Jerry Moran said he would be running

for U.S. Senate in 2010.

Huelskamp said his experience as both a state lawmaker and a farmer from a rural area make him a good fit for District 1, which includes 69 mainly rural counties in the central and western parts of Kansas. He said he already is used to driving long distances to talk to constituents.

"The issues we fight in Topeka are the same as the issues we fight in Washington," Huelskamp added.

He said his interest in politics went back to the Russian grain embargo, when he realized how political decisions can affect people.

"I recognized then that what Washington does has an impact - especially on agriculture," he

said.

Huelskamp said free trade is critical for an agriculture-based economy like that of most rural Kansas counties. He said he has a conservative platform, and especially disagrees with many of the current administration's heavy spending policies, saying that they are creating a problem for ordinary citizens in the future.

"We need to make sure people can make a living here," he said. "To understand and know that - you have to live it."

State Sen. Ralph Ostmeier, who represents the 18-county 40th District that includes Thomas County, came in with Huelskamp, giving the candidate his endorsement. Ostmeier said he had served with Huelskamp for many years, and

the two share an office in Topeka. He said he has endorsed Huelskamp because of his colleague's experience and record.

"You can check how he votes," Ostmeier said. "He talks the talk, he walks the walk."

Ostmeier said he also is endorsing Moran for the Senate.

The open seat has brought out five other candidates for the Republican nomination for Congress: State Sen. Jim Barnett, an Emporia physician; Rob Wasinger, chief of staff to Sen. Sam Brownback; Timothy Barker, chief operating officer of Orion Ethanol; Sue Bol-dra, a teacher and real estate agent in Hays; and Tracey Mann, vice president of a real estate company in Salina. No Democratic candidate has been announced yet.

## Rains make roads slick



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Thomas County saw more than two inches of rain in heavy downpours on Monday and Tuesday, making for muddy roads in some areas. The car at left slid off Country Club Drive south of I-70 at about 6 p.m. Tuesday. The police department had been advised of a rollover accident, but when officers and firefighters got to the scene, they found that there had been no damage and no injuries.

## Briefly

### Summer camp set for Tuesdays

The Colby Wesleyan Church is offering "Tuesdays @ 10," a free summer day camp for children 4 to 12. Kids are invited to participate in the food, fun, games and God's love from 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday through July 28. This year's "Son Rock Camp" will include nature hikes and outdoor activities with lunch. To register, or for information, call the church office at 462-8391.

### Educator speaking Friday

Joe Glassman, chair of the Kansas Regents Technical Education Authority, will talk at 1 p.m. Friday at the Colby High School auditorium as a part of the iConnect/iLearn Conference. Glassman will talk with the public, educators and business leaders about 21st century learning and employment. For information, call Teresa Morgan at 460-5057.

### Decorations need to go

Families are asked to have all temporary grave decorations at Beulah Cemetery picked up by 5 p.m. Monday so mowing can resume, said Relda Galli, secretary of the Colby Cemetery District No. 1 board. For questions, call the caretakers at 462-3188.

### Reunion committee to meet

The planning committee for the 2010 Colby High School Alumni Reunion will meet at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Vision Source conference room. All Colby High alumni are welcome. For information, call Amanda Wahlmeier at 460-9145 or Jada Tubbs at 460-9084.

### District accepting applications

Friday is the deadline for state cost share money for water resource development and "nonpoint source" pollution-control projects through the Thomas County Conservation District. Eligible proj-

ects include terraces, diversions, livestock pipelines, water wells and septic systems. Cost share rate is at least 60 percent, and the landowner limit will not exceed \$7,500 per project. For an application, stop by the district office at 915 E Walnut or go to www.theoconservation.com. For information, call district Manager Debbie Potter at 462-7482, extension 303.

### Church plans Bible study

The Colby Wesleyan Church will offer a 12-week Beth Moore Bible study, "Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy," from at 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 19 at the Pioneer Memorial Library's community room. No homework is required and discussion will focus around the videos. For information, call the church at 462-8391.

### Singles, couples dance Friday

The Colby Singles and Couples Dance will be from

7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday at the Community Building in Colby, with music by Craig Stevens. For information, call Lue Duffey at (785) 855-2341.

### Food distribution Monday

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodity distribution will be from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the Retired Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center. Those who meet income requirements may receive the commodities, which include tuna, peanut butter, juice, green beans, mixed fruit and blackeyed peas. Distribution is first-come, first-served, but participants are asked not to arrive at the office more than a half hour in advance. For information, call the office at 462-6744.



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